

3/26/03

This is in response to telephone conferences on February 25 and 27 with Examiner LaToya I. Cross. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims:

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(1) (Previously amended) An aqueous solution consisting of:
potassium sorbate dissolved in tap water or deionized water at a
concentration in the range of 0.3%-2.94%, by weight, the aqueous solution having a pH
of 4.5 or higher;
providing a solution that has lower electrical conductivity and lower oxygen
content than tap water such that when the solution is exposed to a metal surface the
metal surface will remain free of rust, corrosion and scale.

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(2) (Previously amended) An aqueous solution consisting of:
potassium sorbate dissolved in tap water or deionized water in which the
concentration of potassium sorbate is in the range of 0.30% to 1.75%, and the aqueous
solution having a pH of 4.5 or higher;
providing a solution that has lower electrical conductivity and lower oxygen
content than tap water such that when the solution is exposed to a metal surface the
metal surface will remain free of rust, corrosion and scale.

3. (Cancelled) A concentrated form of aqueous solution that, when diluted
with 16 parts of tap water or deionized water, prevents the formation of rust, corrosion
and scale on metal surfaces that is exposed to it comprising a solution formed in
accordance with the following ratio of ingredients:

269.5 milligrams of tap or deionized water;
0.5 milligrams of sodium nitrate; and
270.0 milligrams of potassium sorbate.

4. (Cancelled) The method of producing a concentrated form of aqueous
solution for use as a rust preventor comprising the steps of:

a) providing 269.5 milligrams of tap or deionized water to a mixing
container;

- b) adding 0.5 milligrams of sodium nitrate to the mixing container;
- c) adding 270.0 milligrams of potassium sorbate to the mixing container; and
- d) mixing the contents of the mixing container.

5. (Cancelled) The method of producing a aqueous solution for use as a rust preventor comprising the steps of:

- a) providing a multiple of 269.5 milligrams of tap or deionized water to a mixing container;
- b) adding 0.5 milligrams, multiplied by the same multiple, of sodium nitrate to the mixing container;
- c) adding 270.0 milligrams, multiplied by the same multiple, of potassium sorbate to the mixing container; and
- d) diluting the contents of the mixing container with 16 parts of tap or deionized water.

6. (Cancelled) The method of producing an aqueous solution that has lower electrical conductivity and lower oxygen content than tap water for use as a rust preventor comprising the steps of:

- a) providing a multiple of 269.5 milligrams of tap or deionized water to a mixing container;
- b) adding 270.0 milligrams, multiplied by the same multiple, of potassium sorbate to the mixing container;
- d) diluting one part of the contents of the mixing container with 16 parts of tap or deionized water.

REMARKS

In the telephone conferences on February 25 and 27, 2003 the Examiner advised attorney F. David AuBuchon that claims 1 and 2 have been found allowable and that this application would be allowed if claims 6 is cancelled and a Terminal Disclaimer is filed regarding US Patent No. 6,500,360.

Claim 6 is hereby cancelled.